

*GRO RACES*

# RACER GUIDE 2026

MARCH 15 - Mountain Challenge 15

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO GET READY FOR RACE DAY

Hello Racers, Thank you for being a part of YEAR 16 !!!

This is a big milestone for us, and we are very proud to have created a tradition that supports epic riding and the growth of the sport. We hope you are as excited as we are for your ride and adventure on the amazing mountain bike trails of Southern Utah.



## RACE BIBLE HIGHLIGHTS!

- **Bring your ID:** Not just to get into the Salt Fire Beer Garden, but also to get into TRUE GRIT EPIC!
- **Don't jump your wave:** **All Challenge riders will start together at 9:35 in wave L.**
- **Sensitive Lands Alert:** You will be passing through some of the most sensitive lands in Washington County. These areas are home to the Desert Tortoise. Competitors are requested to report any tortoise sightings to the nearest marshal.
- **Zero Littering tolerance:** If you litter you will be disqualified
- **Weekend Festivities** include food trucks, vendors, a beer garden, and live music. Bring the family and relax under the giant trees in Downtown Santa Clara.
- **Rider Support:** Spectators are not allowed to drive to the Barrel Roll Feed Zone. **Read more....**

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**And keep this email handy when you get on-site for answers to most of your questions!**

## **Pre-Event Activities**

While many of you have been down in St George training every weekend, others will be arriving by car or plane early in the week. If you have the time we always suggest a pre-ride.

- Waiver and ID Required

## **Parking**

Parking at the Venue will be limited to volunteers and vendors.

- Participant parking is available nearby on city streets or at Snow Canyon HS. You may park on Canyon View
- Drive, the north side of Santa Clara Drive, or on Heights Dr. Plan to ride up to 1 mile to the start line.
- Note that Santa Clara will be very busy on Saturday. In addition to the True Grit Epic, there are baseball tournaments that day.
- **DO NOT TRY TO PARK AT THE TOWN HALL OR IN FRONT OF THE EXPO**
- **DO NOT BLOCK LOCAL RESIDENCES**
- **DO NOT DRIVE UNDER THE STARTING ARCH**
- **ARRIVE EARLY AND PLAN TO RIDE to packet pick-up and the race start.**
- **PLAN YOUR APPROACH AHEAD OF TIME, DON'T GET DELAYED BY TRAFFIC**

See more details on the [PARKING MAP](#)

See more on the venue, and [GET DIRECTIONS](#)

## **Packet Pick-Up**

**Location** - [Park located at 2601 Santa Clara Dr.](#)

What You Get: Each rider will get a swag bag, a number plate with an embedded timing chip (to go on the front of your bike), Food Coupon, a Commemorative Gift ( Socks), and goodie bag from our sponsors.

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You must have your ID to get your packet!

*Picking up for a friend? - This is allowed with a copy of their ID.*

*All Junior races must have a supplemental waiver on file to race. All riders under 14, must have a registered parent riding with them.*

[FILL OUT WAIVER](#) - Deadline 3/10/25

**Option #1** - Thursday 3/13 1 pm - 5 pm. Great for locals avoiding the crowds.

**Options #2** Friday Noon - 6 pm - Food Trucks and Expo are open

**Option #3** - Saturday 3/11 7:00 am - 8:30 am.

You will have an RFID chip on the back of your number plate that is read when you cross a mat or pass by a track box. **Do not fold, bend, cut, or screw up the number plate!** **This can cause a DNF.**





## EXPO

Don't just come to grab your packet and leave, bring the family and spend the afternoon in the sun catching up with all your cycling peeps.

Thursday 1 pm - 5 pm

- Chicharros Taco Truck

Friday

- 3 Food Trucks 8 am - 10 am , 1 pm - 7 pm
- 5 Expo Vendors
- Beer Garden 1 pm -6 pm
- Live Music 2 pm -5 pm

Saturday

- 4 Food Trucks 8 am - 7 pm
- 5 Expo Vendors
- Beer Garden by 11 am -6 pm

## 2026 Vendor List

- CarboRocket
- Z-Trak
- VeloFix Ogden
- Turner Bikes
- Black Jack Sports Wear
- Chicharros Taco Truck
- Zeppe's Italian ICE
- Hooked on Bowls

## Stating Time and Wave

You will start in Wave L . Line up at 9:25 am

Each rider is assigned a starting wave and time. The starting wave is the order in which you line up.

## Starting Procedure

When your wave is called you will enter a gate where your number plate is checked for your wave. If you are caught trying to climb the gate and enter out of your wave you will be removed from the race. That is considered cheating and cheating is not tolerated.

Timing is a rolling “mat-time” start similar to a time trial. All waves in the QUE will begin rolling together. The waves will continue to the end of the block. Each block is a neutral start with a police escort. You can not pass or chase until gates lane ( the dirt). The police can remove you from the race if you do not follow neutral rules.

## SAFETY

Your start will be neutral with a police escort. Do not pass the lead car. Your race starts when you hit the dirt.

## Merchandise

If you pre-purchased merch it will be available in the Merchandise Tent, next to HQ, during expo hours. We will also have a great selection of new merch if you are still looking for a memory item or some fresh, and warm, clothes.



## Timing

The race is chip-timed. **DO NOT BEND OR WRAP YOUR NUMBER PLATE.** AERO doesn't matter if you don't get timed.

[LIVING TRACKING LINK](#) - will go live on race day.

» QR codes will also be placed around the venue to access and share the live results.

These codes will be posted for you to quickly check your spot on the podium. Any questions or protests can be submitted through the live results page.

## Spectators and Rider Support

The public is not allowed to ride, drive, or spectate on the course. You must be entered in the race to ride with a minor child.

- **Feed Zone 2 at Cove Wash Trailhead:** Support CAN NOT drive to this feed zone!! You can park at the small parking area just past the water tank and walk down the course road ( not trail) to the feed zone.

KEEP KIDS AND PETS OUT OF THE TRAIL , the racers are our concern. Please respect the racers and volunteers. If they ask you to move - MOVE!



GOOD Until MARCH 25, 2026



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## Course

It is your responsibility to know the course. Download the course to your device and Go Pre-ride.

- Course marking will go up starting Sunday before the event. We use Orange Ribbon and yellow signs.
- This course uses the last 15 miles of the Epic 50

Review the course on our website - [COURSE PAGE](#)

Download your course - [GPS File](#)

## Did you catch our newsletters?

We have sent out some great emails to get you prepared to race. If you missed them you can check them all out now.

[PREP To Be Epic](#)

[True Grit Gravel Epic](#)

[Women with Grit - Mountain](#)

[Single Speed Assault](#)

[Introducing North Bound- Iceland](#)

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## Rules to Follow (Pretty Please with a Donut on Top)

### 1. Don't be a Jerk!

We know it's bad and we don't like using such language. So don't cross that line and we'll treat you with nothing but respect & love. Do cross that line and we get mad enough to use our bad words, and you won't be welcome back. Plus you'll have to deal with everyone on the internet!

It's Rule #1, and it goes a long way, but there are more rules, too...

- Safety first! While this is a timed event the prizes aren't worth injury, or worse. Take care of yourself and each other out on- course.
- Do Not Litter ! You will be Dq'ed
  - No cutting the course or creating your own shortcut.
  - No spectators, team support allowed on course.
  - No littering on the course, at aid stations, or in town.
  - Must wear an approved helmet at all times.
  - Racers must have a number affixed to the front of their bike during the event.
  - You must finish on the same bicycle you started on.
  - Race directors, medics, and aid station captains may remove any rider from the event that they feel is a hazard to other participants or themselves

**Going off trail or short-cutting the course is never OK and will be grounds for disqualification.**

# NO E-BIKES !

## BAD WEATHER PLAN

### IN THE CASE OF BAD WEATHER

- You will be notified 24 hours before the race if there is a chance weather could affect the event
  - The plan will be posted on the website, FB, IG, and by email
  - The most common race change is an escort around Cove Wash to Keyhole wash.
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## Awards

### FINISHER PRIZE

We have finisher prizes for everyone!

Upon finishing your race, make your way over the the HQ tent (the place you picked up your packet) where some awesome volunteers will give you your award. Don't forget to pick this up to commemorate the day. *PS. They won't be mailed.*

### CASH PURSE AND PODIUM PRIZES

- \$5000 Cash Purse awarded 5 deep to Open 100 and Open 50 winners
- 100 Mile Age Categories awarded 5 Deep
- 50 Mile Age Categories Awarded 3 deep
- There is no podium for the Relay Riders
- **15 Mile Challenge Champions will be on the podium ( that's 1st place only awarded)**

### CEREMONY Times

11:30 pm **15 Mile winners**

1: 30 pm - 50-mile Open Men

2:00 pm - Single Speed, Open Women-40-49, 30-39, 20-29, Masters Men, JR men

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3:30 pm -Sport Women, Master Women, JR Women, 60+ men

4: 00 pm 100 Mile Men, 100 SS Men 100 Masters, 100 Women

## **THANK YOU**

Host City: City of Santa Clara

Land Managers: BLM SGFO, Utah State Trust Lands, Ivins PD,  
St George PD, Steve Hafen

## **SPONSORS**

**Greater Zion**

**Cascade Water Resources**

**Lauf Cycles**

**STANS**

**Carborocket**

**Rowdy Trails**

**<https://velovaere.com/>**

**Club Ride Apparel**

**Velofix Ogden**

**NUEMTB**

**Silver Reef Brewing , Squirt Lube, Brad Harr**

# Ready-Set-GO, YOU HAVE GRIT!

## 2025 Event Calendar

North Bound Grvl - July 30-Aug 1 -North Iceland

unPAved of the Susquehanna River Valley - October 13th - Lewisburg PA

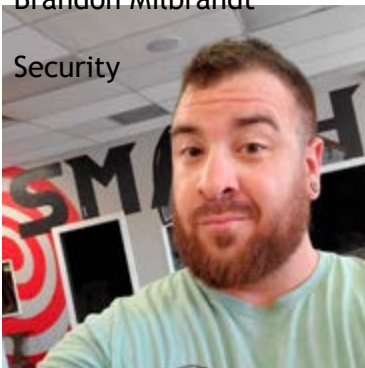
### OUR STAFF

Cimarron Chacon RD / Cameron Wilform Asst RD / Bryce Pratt Course Director / Sara Porter Timing Manager



Brandon Milbrandt

Security



/ Branin Boyack

/ Logistics



/ Allen Slinger

/ Venue Manager



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